

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. (Original) A method for use in communications, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an incoming call, the incoming call representing one of a plurality of
5 call types comprising voice calls, and non-voice calls that can use a facility;

admitting the incoming call for using the facility as a function of the call type of
the incoming call; and

updating a count of a number of voice calls currently admitted, when the
admitted incoming call is a voice call.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the admitting step includes the steps of:

(a) associating with each call type a call bandwidth; and

(b) admitting the incoming call if the call bandwidth of the incoming call is not
5 greater than a spare bandwidth that is associated with the facility for use by the
incoming call.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of
identifying the call type of the incoming call prior to performing step (b).
4. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of
blocking the incoming call if the incoming call is not admitted.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein step (b) further includes the step of reducing the spare bandwidth by an amount equal to the call bandwidth of the admitted incoming call.

6. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of increasing the spare bandwidth by an amount equal to the call bandwidth of the admitted incoming call when the admitted incoming call departs.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) A method for use in a packet communications system, which provides access to at least one virtual circuit, the method comprising the steps of:

determining a call type of an incoming call; each call type having an associated
5 bandwidth;

admitting the incoming call to use the virtual circuit if the associated bandwidth of the incoming call is not greater than a spare bandwidth that is associated with the virtual circuit; and

updating a count of a number of voice calls currently admitted, when the
10 admitted incoming call is a voice call.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of blocking the incoming call if the incoming call is not admitted.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein step of admitting the call further includes the step of reducing the spare bandwidth by an amount equal to the call bandwidth of the admitted incoming call.

12. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of increasing the spare bandwidth by an amount equal to the call bandwidth of the admitted incoming call when the admitted incoming call departs.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Original) A method for use in a packet communications system, which provides access to at least one virtual circuit, the method comprising the steps of:

5 determining a call type of an incoming call; each call type having an associated bandwidth;

admitting the incoming call to use the virtual circuit if the associated bandwidth of the incoming call is not greater than a spare bandwidth that is associated with the virtual circuit;

responsive to the admitted call, providing a stream of ATM Adaptation Layer 2
10 (AAL2) packets for conveying information associated with the admitted call; and

responsive to the stream of AAL2 packets, providing a respective stream of ATM cells for transmission over the virtual circuit; and

updating a count of a number of voice calls currently admitted, when the admitted incoming call is a voice call.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of blocking the incoming call if the incoming call is not admitted.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the admitting step includes the step of reducing the spare bandwidth by an amount equal to the call bandwidth of the admitted incoming call.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of increasing the spare bandwidth by an amount equal to the call bandwidth of the admitted incoming call when the admitted incoming call departs.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Original) Apparatus for use in a packet communications system, which provides access to at least one virtual circuit, the apparatus comprising:

a call classifier for determining a call type of an incoming call; each call type having an associated bandwidth and for admitting the incoming call to use the virtual circuit if the associated bandwidth of the incoming call is not greater than a spare bandwidth that is associated with the virtual circuit;

a processor responsive to the admitted call for providing a stream of ATM Adaptation Layer 2 (AAL2) packets for conveying information associated with the admitted call; and

10 a processor responsive to the stream of AAL2 packets for providing a respective stream of ATM cells for transmission over the virtual circuit

wherein the call classifier updates a count of a number of voice calls currently admitted, when the admitted incoming call is a voice call.

29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein the call classifier blocks the incoming call if the incoming call is not admitted.

30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein the call classifier reduces the spare bandwidth by an amount equal to the call bandwidth of the admitted incoming call.

31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein the call classifier increases the spare bandwidth by an amount equal to the call bandwidth of the admitted incoming call when the admitted incoming call departs.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)